

HOW TO MAKE MONEY GROWING SMALL FRUITS

BY M. N. EDGERTON

To make money growing small fruits, maximum crops must be grown with minimum labor. To be able to do this one must possess a natural aptitude for the business and work, that to say one must have a love for nature and also be filled with intense interest and enthusiasm which creates the necessary incentive.

Much of the work connected with the business of growing and marketing a superior crop of small fruits, is exacting and puttering in its nature, requiring a great deal of knee and finger drill. Lack of interest and enthusiasm combined with a distaste for this sort of work, constitutes a potential cause for failure, and indifferent success in fruit growing.

One may be qualified to deal with the problems and work connected with general farming, and still come short of that required in small fruit growing.

There are certain laws now more or less perfectly understood which must be conformed to, in our operations connected with soil and plant culture, if we are to obtain maximum rewards for labor bestowed.

That is to say, knowledge, skillfully applied brings its own reward.

Now, it may appear to the casual and uninformed observer, that husbandry is a simply occupation requiring little or no education or skill, when in fact the business has to do with most intricate and wonderful processes in both soil and plant life, and, while it may be possible to win a degree of success without a knowledge of these processes and laws governing these life forces in nature, much more certain and substantial success and more uniform results may be had through the possession of this knowledge.

The occupation of fruit growing is a more complicated business even than general farming, for there are a greater number of problems to master.

The sunshine and rain falls on all alike. This statement is to be taken in a general way.

Certain sections of the country have scant rainfall, while other sections have plenty and to spare. Sections of the country may pass through a severe and protracted drouth one season and be subject to the other extreme the next, but such conditions are controlled by fixed laws of nature and have nothing whatever to do with chance or luck.

Now, conditions in the laws of nature which determine precipitation may vary with the seasonal changes, but those laws which determine soil production never.

If a certain soil responds more liberally to our efforts than another, there must be some cause for this difference in productivity, and the cause will usually be found to be under the control of human agencies.

If a piece of land is low and subject to flooding, then it must be drained to place it on an equal footing with land having natural drainage.

If the soil is in a condition of acidity (sour), made so by standing water or because of conditions brought about by wrong handling, then these abnormal conditions must be corrected if uniformity in maximum results is the end sought.

For, upon congeniality in soil conditions depends activity in soil life, which in turn determines the degree of productivity in soils.

Some localities, because of their situation, are much subject to late spring frosts. The growing of strawberries under such conditions is a precarious business.

It is folly to expect uniform maximum results where natural conditions are so adverse to their successful culture.

If one wishes to make a sure thing of success and make good money growing small fruits, the first thing that should be done is to make a close study of these problems of local atmospheric conditions and climatic changes, and of the laws determining soil activities, and then apply the knowledge thus acquired to the case in hand.

Because of air drainage thus afforded higher lying lands should be given the preference. Proximity to bodies of water mitigate the evils resulting from frost, preventing often the lowering of the temperature to the frost point.

The question of soil activities is a much more intricate and complicated problem. Activity in soil life is influenced and determined largely by following named agencies and factors.

Soil drainage, soil aeration, humus content and tillage. Without going into the details, we can only say that in order to give best results a soil should be sufficiently drained, either because of its composition and situation or through tilling and surface drains, so that no water will stand on its surface or remain in the first eight or ten inches of soil more than a few hours after rains have ceased.

Soil aeration is promoted by efficient tillage, both preparation and maintenance, which creates and maintains a loose, friable condition of soil, permitting the circulation of air among soil grains, also by good drainage, for

the presence of standing water (not soil moisture) in a soil excludes air.

But few plants will thrive in a water-logged soil. It is poor policy to set plants in poorly prepared ground thinking that right conditions can be brought about through subsequent tillage.

We shall not attempt to lay down a rule as to the frequency of cultivation necessary to maintain good tilth, nor manner in which the work may best be accomplished. It should be borne in mind, however, that the object of maintenance tillage is to preserve ideal conditions of soil mellowness, hence the formation of a crust must be prevented.

A loose soil surface acts as a soil moisture conservator. It also preserves congenial conditions for the promotion of activities in soil and plant life. The keeping down of weed growth, though necessary to the welfare of fruit plants, is but a secondary object in tillage and if rightly managed will require but a small amount of hand labor.

We would place great stress upon the creation and maintenance of ideal soil conditions. A study should be made also of the questions of adaptability of varieties to soil and climate and markets.

Some varieties of strawberries do not take kindly to every condition of soil and climate, and the only way to find which is the best adapted to a certain soil is to prove them by trial.

Proximity to market cuts quite a figure in determining profits. One needs to make a special study of the market problem.

THE SPIRITUAL BASIS OF CO-OPERATION

(Continued from Page One.)

are in position to be helpfully interested in neighborhood improvement; in better schools; in those larger and deeper social things that mean life, and hope and joy. They cannot be so interested if in a state of bare existence or economically dependent.

The man who raises a bushel of corn only for the fifty cents that is in it "commercializes" his work. Some people think that making money is one of the great aims, if not the chief aim, of life. That isn't an aim. It's a disease. Some farmers think that the thing to live for is to raise more corn, so as to feed more hogs, in order to make more money, with which to buy more land, on which to raise more corn, to feed more hogs, so as to make more money, with which to buy more land on which to raise more corn, etc., etc. That is commercialism or sordidness pure and simple.

Some people think that making money or raising corn or conducting great business enterprises is "commercializing"—is sordid—*pe se*. That is nonsense, pure and simple. It all depends upon the motive behind it. God made the world. He must have worked in so doing, for the only authority we have to tell us about it states that He rested after working six periods. Did He "commercialize" His idea of making the world simply because He wrought it out?

The thing that arouses our interest when we see a boy with fifty or one hundred bushels of corn on his acre, is not the mere money value of the corn, but the knowledge of the fact that the boy's soul has formed a partnership with his brain and his muscle; that this blessed trinity, with the soul as senior partner in the firm, has not only produced the large yield of corn, but in so doing has resulted in a stronger body, a more intelligent brain, and a soul kindled for greater things. And unless we realize the responsibility and the necessity of making the body and brain of the child glow with the spirituality, with the vision, with the holy purpose to shape all the every-day labor to high purposes, we had better seek other material on which to work. Fifty cents can buy a bushel of corn, but what is the money value of a boy's heart, afire with the aspiration to be an honest, manly man? Unless we believe that there is a spiritual basis under all this great educational movement, both in the text-book work and in the corn raising, and in the bread making and sewing and gardening; unless we believe that its greatest value is in the production of manhood stuff, and that our constant and conscious aim should be the development of boy-power and girl-power, so that this power—spiritual in its essence and motive—should permeate and dominate all forms of labor, all lines of business, all avenues of commerce, and should light up with a soft glow the otherwise dead carbon of daily tasks, we should cease to deal with such precious things as children. God thought enough of them to prophecy through Isaiah that when the Golden Day of the Perfect Time should come, all things heretofore at war should be at peace, and that a little child should lead them. Jesus thought enough of them to rebuke those who would keep the children from Him

and to say that of such is the kingdom of heaven. Do we dare, in sinful presumption, in greed, in indifference, to think less

The world is finding out—slowly, oh, so slowly—that the "compartment" idea of living and working and thinking is wrong—mentally, morally, socially and economically wrong. Train up a child in the way you would have him go and when he is old he will rarely depart from it; and certainly, in the schools he has been trained with the "compartment" idea of life. His studies have been placed in compartments. In one compartment is history; in another language; in other grammar; and so on, with apparently no relation or mutual-ity of interest between them. Our religion is in compartments and we have compartment gods. Some of us have our business in one compartment and our religion in another compartment. In some cases our six days are placed in one compartment and not allowed to be on speaking terms with our seventh-day compartment. This may be because we do not wish our seventh day, which is sometimes a very delicate and sensitive creature, to be bothered or worried about what our six days are doing.

Life is one great thing, and all phases of it should and must and do touch each other; what affects one human being affects all; a neglected or wronged heart is a bleeding heart, and the blood of it cries out to God against us.

It is this "compartment" idea that is largely responsible for the terrible fact that civilization is a great cannibal, eating up her own children; and nowhere devouring them with greater gluttony than in our cities. Shall it always be so? Is not the Christian spirit strong enough to convert civilization into a tender mother, caring for her own, nursing her young, and taking pride in their achievements when manhood and womanhood have been reached? How long must we be so absorbed in the task of civilizing humanity as to lose sight of the duty of humanizing civilization? The "compartment" idea is anti-human and inhuman; the co-operative idea is so intensely human as to be divine. Except ye be born from above, ye cannot enter into this new-old idea of life; so new that the world has as yet refused to accept it, so old that over 1,900 years ago it was proclaimed by the Prince of Peace. Co-operation is the permeation of the every-day occupations of life by the two great commandments as interpreted by the Teacher.

Co-operation is not charity, but opportunity; it is not sentimentalism, but spirituality; it is not philanthropy, but justice. Co-operation is not nonsense—it is God-sense.

William Dorsey Pender.

"The noble, gallant Pender rests in an unmarked grave in Calvary churchyard, Tarboro, N. C."

—State Historical Papers.

Virginia proudly numbers gallant ones who wore the gray, And honors them in marble and in story; Shall Carolina fail the patriot's need to pay— Her sons who fell all covered o'er with glory?

Edgcombe soil gave birth to a boy of lofty mien He loved her nooks and dells, her pleasant river; To her his life he gave, passed onward like a dream. His soul rests in the keeping of the Giver.

His comrades here remember him as dauntless, good and true A mate to Stonewall Jackson in his skill.

Our gray old men would shout to pay the honor that is due, A duty that is resting on us still.

His grave is guarded well by a wall of cannon balls Each a grim and mute reproach to Edgcombe's sons Pender's name should be engraven on the State's memorial halls. His gallant deeds be read by "him who runs."

Awake ye sons and daughters, Rally now at duty's call! Near fifty years ye've slumbered, honor render.

A noble shaft must rise aloft, or proud memorial hall, Join hands to honor well the gallant Pender.

—ADAM M. BASS.

February 6, 1911.

SUIT OVER PAVING.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 18.—The Norfolk and Portsmouth Traction Company together with the Ocean View Railroad Company as independently operated subsidiary was today made defendant here in suits aggregating \$85,000 damages, in which City of Norfolk claims actually \$42,000 for "between-tracks" street paving. The traction company insists on the ground that an ordinance franchise in 1887 required its predecessor to only pay for labor, and not material, while its legislative charter in 1886 requires the payment for both labor and material in paving "between tracks." The action involves some \$200,000 in back claims if the city wins.

QUICK RELIEF FROM CATARRH

A Simple, Safe, Reliable Way, and It Costs Nothing to Try.

Those who suffer from catarrh know its miseries. There is no need of this suffering. You can get rid of it by a simple, safe, inexpensive, home treatment discovered by Dr. Blosser, who, for over thirty-six years, has been treating catarrh successfully.

His treatment is unlike any other. It is not a spray, douche, salve, cream, or inhaler, but is a more direct and thorough treatment than any of these. It cleans out the head, nose, throat and lungs so that you can again breathe freely and sleep without that stopped-up feeling that all catarrh sufferers have. It heals the diseased mucous membranes and arrests the foul discharge, so that you will not be constantly blowing your nose and spitting, and at the same time it does not poison the system and ruin the stomach, as internal medicines do.

If you want to test this treatment without cost, send your address to Dr. J. W. Blosser, 788 Walton street, Atlanta, Ga., and he will send you by return mail enough of the medicine to satisfy you that it is all he claims for it as a remedy for catarrh, catarrhal headaches, catarrhal deafness, asthma, bronchitis, colds and all catarrhal complications. He will also send you free an illustrated booklet. Write him immediately.

The Source of Our Greatness.

(Sanford Express.)

Some of our legislators over at Raleigh seem disposed to loosen the divorce laws. In many of the States the laws are too lax, and Mr. Battle is right in his fight on all divorce law amendments. The growth of the divorce evil is alarming. Last year there were in this country more than forty thousand divorces, a good many of them in North Carolina. This means that forty thousand homes were wrecked. It means that forty thousand mock-offerings have been laid on the marriage altar. It means that thousands of young souls have been cut loose from the shores that should anchor all affections and cast upon an aimless voyage for life. It means that many of the hearths and firesides, where are cradled the morals of civilization, instead of becoming sanctuaries of happiness, have been turned into places of wretchedness and misery. Let us not loosen the divorce laws. The unity and perpetuity of the family tie is the safeguard to our peace and honor. Back of and above all our achievements the home stands as the true source of our freedom and greatness.

MR. LEWIS BRAGASSA DEAD.

Friends will regret to learn of the death of Mr. Lewis Bragassa, which occurred at Somerset, Ky., early yesterday morning as the result of having been shot. The details of the shooting are not known.

Mr. Bragassa is a native of Raleigh and had many friends here. His mother, Mrs. Bragassa, was with him when the end came and his father left Friday afternoon. He leaves a wife and two children.

Things Worth Thinking About.

How pleasant it is during snappy cold days to sit by the fire and through the window watch one's wife wading through the snow to hang out the week's washing.

The man who owns a two-year old colt that is not harness broken has much to learn about horses.

Cut out the 30 cent middleman and send your butter and eggs and other produce direct to your customers in town. Two dollars worth of postal cards will give you a start in the business.

We have more respect for the farmer who puts a stone in the butter jar or conceals the wormy apples in the middle of the barrel than the man who poisons the children's food with chemicals.

At a barn raising the man who grunts the loudest—generally lifts the least and eats the most.

The farmer who dresses like a tramp is sadly out of place among self-respecting men these days.

Two families may live side by side for years and yet be far from being real neighbors.

At Mount Hermon School.

There was a delightful box party and stereopticon entertainment given at Mount Hermon school, in Cedar Fork township, Friday night, at which time \$76.15 was raised to run the school for an extra month. This amount, with other funds available, will run the school for more than a month, much to the satisfaction of the patrons.

Miss Edith Royster was present with the stereopticon machine, owned by the Betterment Association, while the pictures were illustrated with readings by Miss Margaret Jones, of the Faculty of Peace Institute.

There was a voting contest in which Miss Lester Dillard won the prize for being the most beautiful lady present.